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August 5, 2003

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W. - Suite TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Oral Ex Parte Presentation*
In the Matter of Performance Measurements and Standards for Interstate
Special Access Services, CC Docket No. 01-321

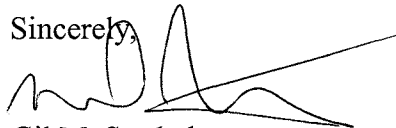
Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 4, 2003, members of the Joint Competitive Industry Group (JCIG) met with Jennifer Manner, Senior Counselor to Commissioner Abernathy to discuss the above-referenced proceeding. The JCIG members attending the meeting included: Kent Nakamura of Nextel; Marc Martin of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, outside counsel for Nextel; Douglas Brandon of AT&T Wireless; Harold Salters of T-Mobile; Michael Pryor of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky & Popeo, outside counsel for AT&T Corp.; Richard Metzger of Focal; Lisa Youngers of MCI; and A. Richard Metzger, Jr. of Lawler, Metzger & Milkman, outside counsel for MCI.

During the meeting, members of JCIG explained that wireless carriers suffer from the same difficulties that other members of JCIG have encountered with respect to incumbent LEC provisioning, repair and maintenance of interstate special access services. The group discussed the attached presentation describing CMRS carriers' use of special access, the problems caused by poor special access performance and JCIG's proposed solution to these problems.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, this letter is being provided to you for inclusion in the public record of the above-referenced proceeding.

Sincerely,



Gil M. Strobel

Attachment

cc: Jennifer Manner

ILEC Special Access: The Critical Need for Performance Measurements, Standards, Reporting and Enforcement

Joint Competitive Industry Group

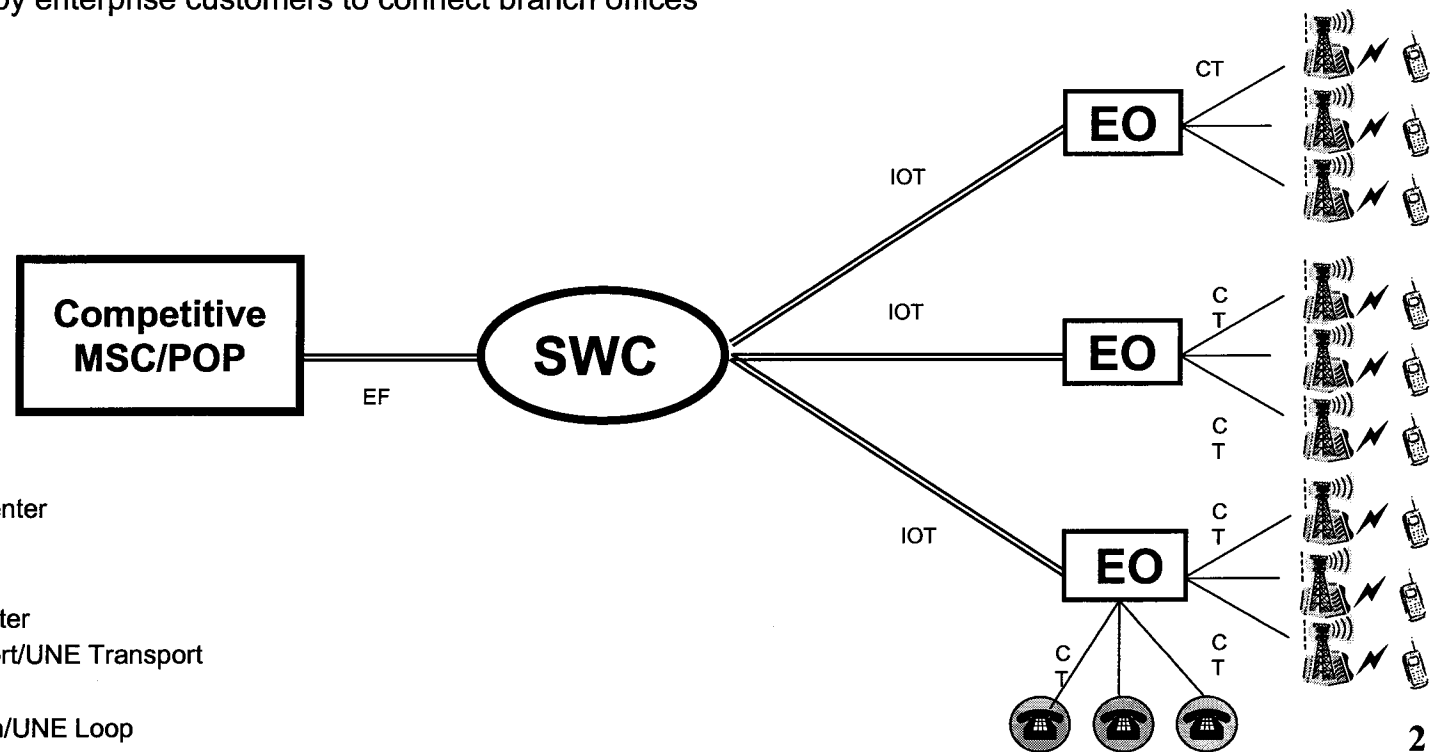
CC Docket No. 01-321

August 4, 2003

What Is Special Access?

❑ Special access is:

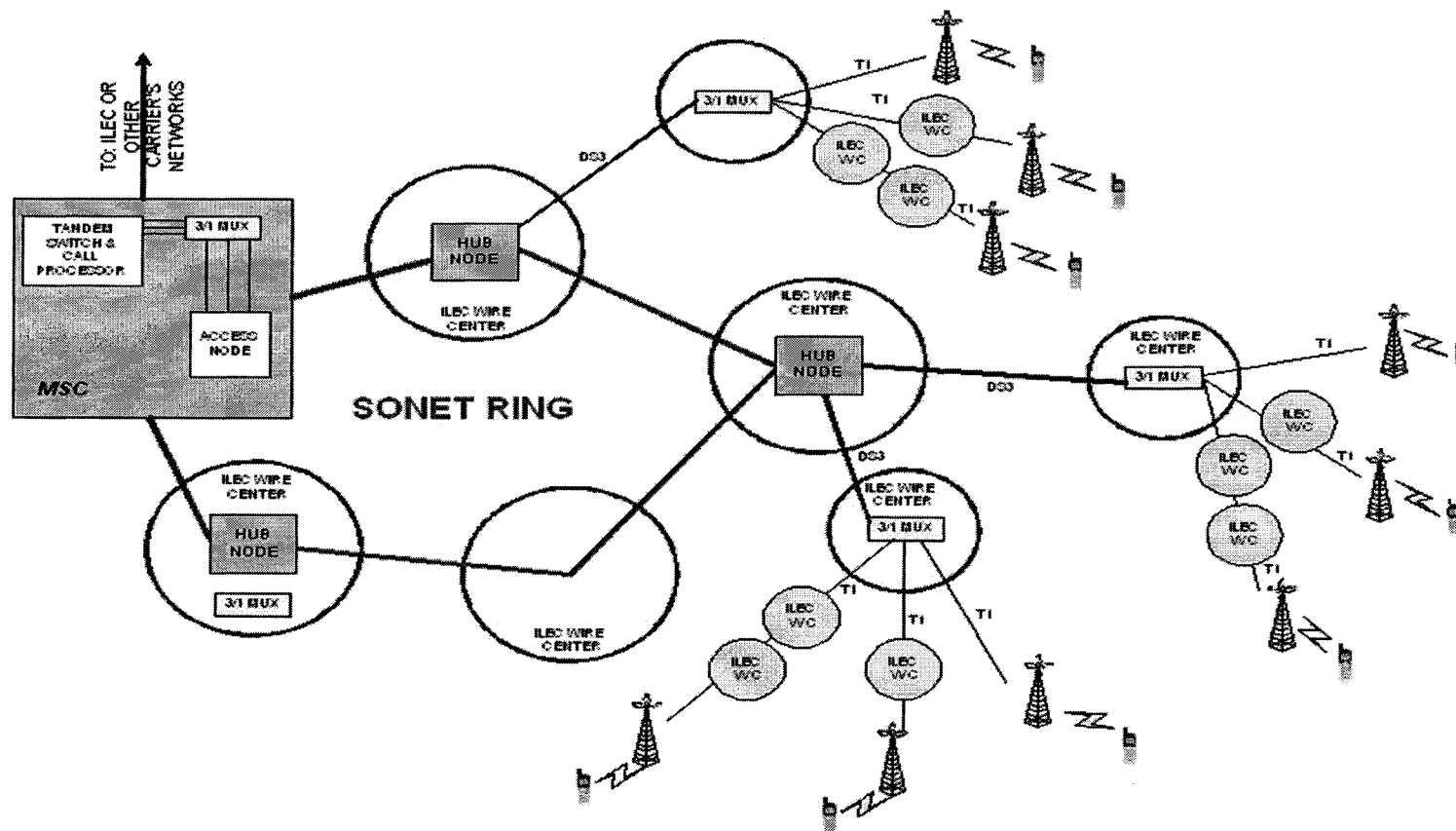
- Dedicated (unswitched) links between end-users and a competitor's MSC or POP
- Provided via the same facilities used to supply UNE loops and transport
- Used by CMRS carriers to connect cell sites to MSCs
- Used by wireline carriers for interoffice facilities and local loops
- Used by enterprise customers to connect branch offices



CMRS Carriers' Use of Special Access

A CMRS carrier must obtain transport from virtually every wire center in the CMRS carrier's serving area

CMRS Use of ILEC Transport in Metropolitan Areas



CMRS Carriers Depend Heavily on ILEC Special Access to Connect MSCs to Cell Sites

- ☐ CMRS networks consist of thousands of cell sites that are used to originate and terminate customers' calls
- ☐ Each cell site must be connected to centrally located mobile switching centers (MSCs)
- ☐ Cell site-to-MSC connections are overwhelmingly made via wireline transport services purchased from ILEC special access tariffs
- ☐ CMRS carriers' reliance on special access will increase as CMRS carriers expand their service areas and upgrade their facilities to provide broadband services

Poor ILEC Performance Continues to Be a Problem

- ❑ Persistent problems with ILEC performance include
 - Failure to provide timely provisioning of special access circuits
 - Failure to repair circuits promptly
- ❑ These ILEC failures result in increased costs, lost revenues and harm to carriers' reputations
 - End users ultimately bear the burden of service disruptions and other problems caused by poor ILEC performance
- ❑ The Commission must guard against the possibility that ILECs with CMRS affiliates will discriminate unlawfully against unaffiliated CMRS providers

JCIG Has Proposed a Comprehensive “Turn-Key” Solution to Address Tier 1 ILECs’ Continuing Poor Performance

- ❑ **Measurement:** ILECs would measure their performance with respect to key special access activities
- ❑ **Standards:** ILEC performance would be assessed based on objective standards designed to prevent unjust, unreasonable and unlawfully discriminatory practices
- ❑ **Reporting:** To facilitate detection of unreasonably discriminatory practices, the ILECs would provide performance reports
 - On a customer-specific basis for ILEC special access customers
 - On an aggregated basis for the following groups: unaffiliated CMRS providers; affiliated CMRS providers; competitive wireline providers; affiliated wireline providers; and end users
- ❑ **Enforcement:** Enforcement mechanisms would ensure that sub-standard or unreasonably discriminatory performance would lead to timely and appropriate payments to carriers (service credits and/or damages) as well as forfeitures

How Do We Measure Performance?

☐ Eight Core Measures Capture Ordering and Provisioning

- FOC Receipt
- FOC Receipt Past Due
- Offered Versus Requested Due Date
- On Time Performance To FOC Due Date
- Days Late (when FOC Due Date missed)
- Average Intervals – Requested / Offered / Installation
- Past Due Circuits
- New Installation Trouble Report Rate

☐ Three Key Measures for Maintenance and Repair

- Failure Rate
- Mean Time to Restore
- Repeat Trouble Report Rate